

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE, No. 25 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.  
BOOTH'S THEATRE, corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue.—AT 8 P. M.; at 11 P. M. Miss Clara Morris.  
LYCUM THEATRE, Fourteenth street, near Sixth avenue.—GROFFLE, at 8 P. M.; at 11 P. M. Miss Gouffroy.  
ROBINSON HALL, West Sixteenth street.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.  
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, Broadway, corner of Twenty-third street.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; at 11 P. M. Misses Minnie and Lillian Conway.  
WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway.—THE IRISH BARRISTER, at 8 P. M.; at 10 P. M. Miss Ada Dyma, Mr. Montague.  
BOVEY'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 20 Bovey.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; at 10 P. M.  
WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner of Third street.—JIM BLINDBOE, at 8 P. M.; at 10 P. M. Misses Nobles, Matinee at 2 P. M.  
BROOKLYN ATHENAEUM, TABLEAU VIVANTS, at 8 P. M.  
THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; at 10 P. M.  
METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, West Fourth street.—Open from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.  
OLYMPIC THEATRE, No. 624 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; at 10 P. M.  
GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Eighth avenue and Twenty-third street.—TWELVE TEMPTATIONS, at 8 P. M.; at 11 P. M.  
GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN CIRCUS, Twenty-fifth street and Eighth avenue.—Afternoon and evening.  
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fifth street and Broadway.—THE BIG BO. NANGA, at 8 P. M.; at 10 P. M.  
BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE, Fulton avenue.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; at 10 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, MONDAY, MAY 17, 1875.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be cool and clear.

THE CARLISTS have found Guetaria too strong for them and are preparing an attack on Beneria.

THE VERDICT of the Coroner's jury in Newark in the case of Frederick Gluckstadt, who was run over by a railroad train, deserves approval as a bold and manly protest.

OUR LITERARY COLUMNS to-day present a letter from Paris descriptive of several important new French publications, and reviews of the latest books of criticism, biography and fiction.

THE ESCAPE of the Sing Sing convicts has called special attention to the story of one of the worst of them—the murderer, Stephen Boyle—which is vividly told in another column.

THE MINERS.—The probability of an early resumption of labor in the Wilkesbarre collieries is asserted in our correspondence from the mining regions to-day. The end of this long strike seems to be approaching.

THE WEATHER yesterday was beautiful, and the parks, the rivers and the bay and all the surrounding suburbs were filled with pleasure seekers. Nothing was wanting to make the enjoyment complete but better methods of travel within the limits of the city itself. The want of these kept thousands of people at home.

THE REASONS given by the German government for the release of the imprisoned priests at Posen seem to imply that it has obtained from other sources the information it desired to obtain by this clerical persecution. It may be that the real cause is that the firmness of the priests has convinced the government that the policy of terrorism has in this instance failed.

ITALY AND THE POPE.—Just when the Pope has celebrated his eighty-third birthday he suffers another rebuke in the suspension of a Roman newspaper for publishing his address to the German pilgrims. This act is harsh, but it is also an indication that the Italian government is not disposed to give Germany any ground for complaints that might disturb the peace of Europe.

CUBA LINE.—The account we publish to-day of a battle between the Spanish and Cuban forces in the Eastern Department shows how completely the tide of fortune has turned in favor of the insurgents. From Bayamo to Las Cruces the soldiers of the Cuban Republic fight and die for the sacred cause of independence; and everywhere they seem to be slowly, but surely, gaining ground, although now cut off from outside help for more than six years. And once more we are informed that they have purchased a blockade runner.

Governor Tilden's Rapid Transit Bill.

The bill introduced on Friday and made the special order for this evening in the Assembly is the Governor's bill by adoption and probably by contribution to the original draft. There is perhaps no kind of work for which Governor Tilden is so competent, when he bends his mind to it, as the drafting of a railway bill that will stand the wear and tear of conflicting interests and pass safely through the ordeal of the legislatures always liable to arise under such acts of legislation. Mr. Tilden has been the legal adviser of half the leading railroads of the Northern States, and the most valuable fruits of his skill have not consisted in conducting lawsuits with success, but in avoiding their necessity by shrewd foresight. His experience has made him familiar with all the sources from which such litigation can arise; and he has more than once lent his assistance in the preparation of railway laws for the consideration of State Legislatures. There is no man in the country whose deliberate approval of a railroad bill would be a safer guarantee that it provided for every exigency likely to arise. Governor Tilden's endorsement of the new Rapid Transit bill entitles it to respectful examination.

It would be idle at this stage to compare the Governor's bill with the original bill of the Common Council. The Common Council bill in the form in which it was sent to Albany, is past praying for. It has been so deformed by miscellaneous amendments that its parents can hardly recognize it. Having passed both branches of the Legislature in this mishapen condition there is no possibility of its going back into that body and being born again. The choice, therefore, is not between the new bill and the Common Council bill, as first drafted, but between the new bill and the mishapen progeny of the Legislature, now in the Governor's hands, with doubts in his mind as to whether he shall strangle it or permit it to live. If the new bill passes there can be no question as to its duty. Whatever may be thought of the comparative merits of the two bills in their original shape there is no room for hesitation in a choice between the Governor's bill as drafted and the Common Council bill as amended by its enemies. If the new bill passes it will be the clear duty of the Governor to veto the other. Considering the alternative to which we are reduced by the perverse, hostile amendments, all true friends of rapid transit should desire the prompt passage of the bill which will occupy the Assembly this evening. When a horse has been entered for a race if corrupt or malicious jockeys lame him nobody bets any longer on the disabled steed, however splendid may have been his original running qualities. Such a horse is the Common Council bill since it was malignantly practised upon by the corrupt jockeys of the Legislature in the pay of the street railroads.

As the Governor has committed himself to the new bill we must rely on his exerting all his legitimate influence to secure its passage. In a matter of such magnitude and such pressing urgency we waive our objections to the appointment of the Commissioners by the Governor. That he would appoint upright and competent men we never had a doubt, and it is better that the Governor should select Commissioners under a law which would give us rapid transit than for the Mayor to select them under a law which would be practically abortive. We want the thing done, and when the choice lies between a bill framed to do it and a bill amended to obstruct it there is no room for hesitation. We had rather see rapid transit march at the word of the Governor than merely mark time at the command of the Mayor, and this is the alternative to which we are brought.

In the brief comparison we are about to make we will drop the designation "Common Council bill" (for it is no longer the same bill) and call it the Moore bill, the title by which it is commonly known in Albany, from the name of the Senator who introduced it, and for the sake of brevity we will call the other the Tilden bill.

First.—The Tilden bill is superior to the Moore bill in the fact that proceedings under it must necessarily mean business. The Commissioners appointed under the Tilden bill receive no salary unless a rapid transit road is organized and built, and their salaries are to be paid by the company; but the Commissioners under the Moore bill are to be paid by the city, and will have no pecuniary stimulus to make the work a success. Under the Tilden bill they go out of office when the company is organized; under the Moore bill they are appointed for three years and are a standing charge upon the city whether anything is accomplished or not. The practical effect of the Moore bill might be merely to create fat offices for the benefit of nobody but the incumbents. Besides, it is right and honest that the company which is to receive the profits of the road should defray the preliminary costs. This is a sound precaution against bogus attempts and deceitful dallying with the subject. It would be for the interest of the street railroads to bribe the Commissioners under the Moore bill to put on busy disguises and do nothing. Under the Tilden bill each of them is required to give a bond in the penal sum of twenty-five thousand dollars for the faithful performance of his duties and to take an official oath.

Second.—The Tilden bill is better than the Moore bill by the permission it gives to construct a rapid transit road on any street or avenue of the city except Broadway and Fifth avenue below Fifty-ninth street and Fourth avenue above. Forty-second street, whether there are horse railroads on the streets or not. The Commissioners are just as free to take Third avenue or Fourth avenue or Sixth or Eighth avenue as if a railroad track had never been laid on them. Exception is also made of streets or avenues in which there is already an elevated or underground road, but, for the present, this includes only Ninth avenue, and its future effect will be to secure every rapid transit road that may be built against disturbance by new companies. The Moore bill does not confer this unequivocal right to use the streets in which there are horse railroads. It contains a clause which may be construed as prohibiting rapid transit in such streets altogether. The Tilden bill provides that when the Commissioners locate a rapid transit road in a street or avenue where there is a horse railroad the company owning the latter may build the former if it will comply with the conditions.

If Third avenue, for instance, should be taken, the Third avenue horse car company may elect whether it will build and own the rapid transit road or permit a new company to be organized. It would be for its interest to own and control both roads and prevent a conflict of rival interests on the same routes. Besides the profits of the rapid transit road the company would gain nearly as much business as it would lose on its horse railroad. Supposing the rapid transit stations to be half a mile distant, a large portion of the people getting on or off at them would also use the horse cars, and the company would receive the same fares for short distances that they do for long distances. The tide of travel drawn to this route by the rapid transit road would bring additional business to their horse cars, without suffocating them by overcrowding. Moreover, it would be easy for a wealthy company, like that which owns the Third avenue horse cars, to command the capital for building a rapid transit road on a route where its success would be so assured.

Third.—The Tilden bill is carefully and comprehensively drawn, so as to cover every question that can arise respecting rights of property, compensation to owners, the legal obligations of companies, and every point about which doubts and litigations are liable to arise in so large and complex an undertaking.

We earnestly hope, therefore, that the Tilden bill may pass, in which case it will be the duty of the Governor to extinguish the Moore bill with a veto.

Louisiana Affairs.

In the letter which we publish to-day our special correspondent in the South gives an account of the condition of Louisiana as regards peace. He says that there is no doubt that in the early years after the war many and serious outrages were committed on the freedmen; he declares that the suffrage and the right to hold office were both absolutely necessary to make them and maintain them really free men; but he thinks it a misfortune for them that they fell under the leadership of base men, who used them and taught them the vile ways of politics, and he discloses an amazing corruption in the rulers of the State, who appear, in the instances he cites, to have been in many cases not only unscrupulous, but vulgar and greedy robbers, men who have not hesitated to prostitute even the schools established for the colored children to their partisan purposes, and who have robbed right and left, without shame.

Mr. Nordhoff declares his belief that since 1870 there have been very few political murders or outrages in the State, and he points out and enforces by instances the curious fact that a great part of the murders since that date have been of negroes by negroes. He appears to be struck by the fact that the rulers of the State have been extraordinarily negligent in punishing crimes, and lays the blame for such disorders as exist largely to this inefficiency; yet it is this State government, corrupt and inefficient to the last degree, which the President has been misled by his favorites into supporting and forcing upon the people of Louisiana during several years.

Mecklenburg.

We print two new contributions to the Mecklenburg controversy this morning, and, as usual, one on each side, which we consider fair as between the affirmative and negative. One of these communications, that of Dr. James C. Welling, President of the Columbian University at Washington, is remarkable for force of reasoning and chaste elegance of style, and will be read with interest even by those who are growing weary of the subject. Dr. Welling's very able article on the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence in the North American Review for April, 1874, has been freely drawn upon by subsequent writers. There is no other historical inquirer to whom the side he advocates is so much indebted. Readers of his present communication will see the very best that research, acuteness, and logic can offer against the genuineness of the 20th of May resolutions and the authenticity of the meeting at which they are said to have been adopted. Those who are proof against Dr. Welling's reasoning are not likely to have their faith shaken by anything that will ever be said on the subject.

The other communication is from Mr. Charles R. Jones, editor of the Charlotte Observer, and of course a zealous advocate of the Mecklenburg claim. We will not recapitulate his points, but we think it right to notice a statement, not material to his argument, in which he has fallen into an error. He says that Jefferson, who rejected the Mecklenburg Declaration, also disbelieved in the existence of Jesus Christ. Jefferson certainly was not orthodox, yet he not only believed in the existence but admired the moral teachings of the founder of Christianity, of which there is one very striking proof. He once prepared a little book, for his own private use, consisting of such texts from the Gospels as he believed emanated from the lips of Jesus himself, and arranged them in an octavo volume of forty-six pages. His biographer, Randall, had seen it, and gives the title page and specimens in the appendix to his third volume. This collection was handsomely bound in morocco and was one of the most frequent of the books of morals in which it was Jefferson's habit to read each night before retiring to bed. In a letter to Charles Thompson he said of it:—"A more beautiful or precious morsel of ethics I have never seen. It is a doctrine in proof that I am a real Christian—that is to say, a disciple of the doctrines of Jesus, very different from the Platonists, who call me infidel and themselves Christians, while they draw all their characteristic dogmas from what its author never said nor saw." This is not the language of a man who disbelieved in the existence of Jesus.

THE SIOUX PARADISE of the Black Hills and the history of the recent attempts of the gold seekers to enter that region are the subject of a thoughtful letter from Cheyenne to-day. The scientific expedition of which our correspondent writes has already started for the scene of its labors.

THE ANNIVERSARIES.—A number of religious societies held their anniversaries in this city yesterday. Among them were the Congregational Union, the American Tract Society, and the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

The Apotheosis of Barnum—Vive la Bagatelle!

The strange news published in the HERALD of Saturday, as received by cable from our correspondents in London, to the effect that Moody and Sankey, the revivalist missionaries in England, are really under the patronage of our distinguished fellow countryman, Mr. Barnum, may take unthinking people by surprise. As our readers will remember, the story is that Mr. Barnum, having won every triumph in the way of adventure and humbug, sought, like Alexander, for new worlds to conquer, and finds them in the religious sympathies of the great British nation. He saw a people wandering from the faith of their fathers, showingsigns of a latitudinarian spirit, following the new cardinals in their red robes to the verge of Rome. There was no knowing where it would end. Cardinal Manning, with his hat, had gathered around him all the splendor and glory and fashion of the British nobility, headed by the Duke of Norfolk. So powerful was the attraction in a country of ritual and ceremony, where a strawberry field represents one of the highest of dignities, that there was some danger of the whole Established Church, cathedrals and all, going trooping after the head of the Howards. Mr. Diaradi, in his novel of "Lothair," shows the influence of fashion in religion—how great rank and station are paramount, even in the Church. If we want to have a fashionable faith, what better than that of Rome, with its wealth of decoration and music? Great names have already fallen at the feet of Pius IX. There were Lothair, with the rich earldom of Bute, and the Marquis of Ripon, with all the honors that cluster around the ancient house of Grey. It was whispered, upon the authority of Mr. Whalley, that even Mr. Gladstone's lively conscience was looking to Rome for peace. Now we know the influence of these shining examples. George IV., when first gentleman of Europe, was graciously pleased to saunter and roll as he walked, and to draw in speech when he talked. All England began to dawdle and drawl. So, unless some sudden stop was put to the whole business, where would it end?

In America the danger was even greater. The Yankee mind loves a lord, and when none better serves we are not above making obsequious to a macaroni count or a Pacific island king of royal mahogany hue. When the Pope sent us a real prince and a real red berretta, with a real count in dazzling raiment to show us the extent of Vatican splendor before Victor Emmanuel put an end to it, the example became contagious. No event since Jenny Lind appeared at Castle Garden has made the sensation of the ceremony attending the imposing of the berretta. All New York began to run after the new Cardinal. The ladies ransacked the stores to find some of the lovely crimson of his new robes. Rising statesmen, who used to follow Tweed with his diamonds to Greenwich and sit in expectant adoration before the dispenser of power, suddenly became religious, and could be seen swarming about His Eminence, only too anxious to kiss the sacred ring. All the old "line takers" and "rounders" and Americans Club statesmen have become devout to the last degree. The spread of religion among the aspirants for office is most gratifying. We have professional Irishmen and professional Catholics, whose faith and nativity are only elements of political intrigue. If it had kept on we should have had the whole republican committee tumbling after, headed by Mr. Murphy—who, by the way, has always been faithful—and embracing Mr. Ladin, General Arthur, General Sharpe and Mr. Bliss, all of whom would accept, no doubt, baptism to-morrow to secure a third term.

It was at this exigency, when the whole country, democratic and republican, was about to be converted by a red hat, that the happy genius of Barnum came to the rescue. Barnum has saved Protestantism in two countries. The career which began with Joyce Heth and the Fiji mermaid, which has succeeded in collecting the largest number of mummies, clubs and curiosities ever exhibited for a small price of admission, culminates in becoming, like Mohammed and Joseph Smith, the founder of a new faith. Nor must we despise his genius because it seeks humble instruments for this work. A French writer says that to found a new religion it only needs an old woman, a cat and a priest. Mr. Barnum only needs a preacher and a singer. The news that he has taken Moody and Sankey as a speculation to save evangelical religion in America and England may fall harshly upon the unthinking mind not imbued with the true philosophy of the age. It may be thought that our correspondent was misled by some designing wirepullers, such as we have sometimes discovered behind the scenes in journalism—men who use the press for their own wicked and selfish purposes. But the intelligence did not surprise us. We know Barnum. We know how largely he represents the American nation abroad. It looked a couple of years ago as if Buchu had superseded him; but Buchu soon became resolved into his original, component parts, and Barnum kept that primacy of citizenship in these glorious States which has been his, by general suffrage, ever since he made thousands of his countrymen, at twenty-five cents a head, believe that an india-rubber figure on springs was the nurse of Washington. Barnum could not surprise us. This news of his newest achievement does not give us the least astonishment. We knew the berretta enthusiasm would arouse his genius to a supreme effort. We should be prepared to learn that he had sent a circular to the Queen proposing to include Her Majesty in his next exhibition of wonderful waxworks and living curiosities. He would not doubt afford the Queen remunerative terms to carry out the speculation. He would put Cardinal Manning with his hat, the President of Honduras and M. Philippart, the Jay Gould of France, all in a show together, with a spirit of enterprise and a disregard of all preliminary expenses characteristic of the man and his nation.

What more natural, therefore, than that a man so gifted and so courageous—the successful rival of Buchu—who has fooled millions of people at twenty-five cents a head before the war and fifty cents since, should found a new musical religion, with "foody for apostle and Sankey for palinast"—a religion which now numbers millions of enlightened Britons among its worshippers. Truly Barnum is the most extraordinary man of the age, the cen-

tennial American in this, that he represents the full fruition of the hundred years we celebrate. We do not say that Barnum is like Bayard, "sans peur et sans reproche," or like the dissolved Buchu, a cure for every ailment, including baldness; but he is like himself alone, "without modesty and without scruples." This prince of humbug has not the slightest hesitation in carrying out his schemes of humbug. Our readers cannot fail to see that the strangest results must be produced upon this new melodious creed by associating Barnum with a public celebration of its rites. We cannot help remembering that Barnum is omnipresent. We have seen him in many an editorial chair busy over the proof-sheets. He is always the inspiration of great public questions, and many of his admirers and followers and imitators will insist that he originated Caesarism and invented the third term. We have no doubt he first attacked our eminent, unselfish and long-suffering General Grant, and objected to his eternal Presidency. We are willing to retract all we have ever said on the subject of Grant, to repudiate the third term as a rook-back, to concede that we have never had anything of our own will to say about Caesarism. Barnum was the master-spirit of the whole business, as he is the master-spirit of the age. Hereafter, when the learned antiquarian of far distant ages shall inquire into the geological formation of the earth, Barnum will be the little frog, hopping out of some paleozoic stone. In the dim ages of the future, when this sublime Republic shall have passed away, leaving no record except the worn-out pages of historical books; when Macaulay's New Zealand shall, after studying the broken arches of London Bridge and the ruins of St. Paul's, come to survey the fragments of Manhattan, the stones of the Court House, the Brooklyn Bridge and the Fourth Avenue Improvement, he will find only the name of Barnum to show that this was once the city of his renown. It but one slab remains of our tallest and most cherished monuments and our most splendid cities, upon that stone, deeply engraved and boldly cut, will be found the illustrious, the immortal and the honored name of Barnum, protector of Joyce Heth, proprietor of the Fiji mermaid, patron of Tom Thumb, compiler of a million curiosities and apostle of a new religion which will save England and America from the influence of the berrettas now threatening to overwhelm all that remains of the Reformation in the countries of Thomas Cranmer and Roger Williams.

The Custom House Revenue Frauds.

Wherever heavy duties are imposed on imported goods there is a great temptation to fraud. Many persons regard it as a venial transgression to cheat the government; then silks, laces, watches and such like goods can be so easily handled, so great a value can be packed in so small a compass, and the saving of fifty or sixty per cent is so enticing, that under the most vigilant and efficient system ever adopted for the collection of customs duty a government can never expect to secure all that is justly its due. When we hear of some fashionable belle or her friends managing or attempting to smuggle through a foreign purchased wardrobe without complying with the revenue laws we are too apt, in the present lax condition of public morality, to regard it as a smart and even as a commendable piece of enterprise. Indeed, some people look upon it as a sort of oppression or imposition when they are required to pay duty on articles they purchase abroad for their personal use and without any design of profit or speculation. But common justice should teach us all that when duties are imposed for the support of the government, and honest merchants pay them, and are compelled to put a certain price on their goods in consequence, wholesale smuggling is a gross injustice to the best portion of the business community, as well as a robbery of the people at large.

The story of the Lawrence conspiracy, as told by the United States District Attorney, is a startling one; yet, according to the present statement, we have only been afforded a glimpse of the remarkable case, and we are assured that more astonishing developments are in store for us. To be sure, we have as yet only one side of the tale, and it is to be hoped, for the honor of the mercantile community, that some of its harshest features may be susceptible of explanation. It is certain that a most ingenious and complete system of fraud has been concocted and has been in operation for a long period without detection. When we read of the extensive transactions of the guilty parties, of the skill manifested in their plans, of their admirably contrived method of secret correspondence, of the wide circle of the conspiracy, embracing parties in Europe, the United States and Canada—merchants, agents, manufacturers and government officials—we are struck by the idea that the same ability and energy directed to honest pursuits must have commanded success in legitimate business.

The connection of some of the Custom House officers with such frauds has long been suspected, and their exposure and punishment will be a great public good. The Collector, the Surveyor and other heads of the New York Custom House are above suspicion, and their vigilance in the discharge of their duties is generally admitted. But no amount of watchfulness and care can wholly prevent dishonest practices on the part of unfaithful subordinates, and the efforts of the Collector and his associates to hunt down the offenders have been increased by their knowledge of the advantage to be gained by the detection and punishment of the guilty parties. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the prosecution will be sternly pursued and will be made to embrace every person implicated in the conspiracy. The lesson will be a salutary one to the Custom House officers. It will also be useful, if read aright, to all who think to make a permanent success through fraudulent practices. Here is a vast conspiracy, reaching into millions of dollars in its operations, carried on undetected for two years, and ending at last probably in the State Prison and poverty for those engaged in it. The prospect of enormous profits disappears when it is discovered that in such a business heavy bribes have to be dealt out to numerous accomplices and smuggled goods have to be sold at twenty per cent under the market price. All who touch the pitch are defiled and injured by it.

The Intellect of the New York Clergy.

It is often remarked by intelligent persons that they would go to church much more frequently if it were not for the sermons. The music they say they enjoy, and urge that it would be a great advantage to religion if the services were conducted entirely by the choir. It is needless to expose the folly of this proposition, or to point out the evils that would be caused by the total exclusion of clergymen from the pulpit. In another way we have demonstrated the intellect and piety of our metropolitan preachers, for the sermons we report are better than arguments. One service which the HERALD has tried to render both the Church and the public is to exhibit in these reports the splendor, the earnestness, the spirituality and the eloquence of the pulpit of New York; nor have our efforts been unavailing, inasmuch as they have corrected this unjust prejudice by proving that the sermon, instead of being an impediment to church-going is really an inducement. That the choir sometimes, but very rarely, is superior to the pulpit may be justly admitted, but this condition will not long be permitted to exist in a well regulated church. The congregation will get a better preacher, or, if that is impossible, they will engage inferior singers, or if the clergyman is very bad they will conduct the music themselves.

As an illustration of the intellectual power of our clergy we might cite, without apprehension of the effect, the subjects and the treatment of the sermons we publish to-day. The Schiller disaster, in the management of the Rev. W. R. Alger, affords spiritual meanings and encouragement. The completion of the work of salvation is a theme certainly handled with ability by the Rev. Dr. Thompson. The argument for the divine origin of the Catholic Church was powerfully presented by the Rev. Father C. J. Dealy, at the Cathedral. Mr. Frothingham pointed out with fine analysis the difference between the broad and narrow paths, advocating strict obedience to conscience as compatible with the widest latitude in thought. The birth of the Church, an historical subject, was eloquently treated by the Rev. Dr. McGlynn. The Rev. Dr. George H. Hopworth, with all that keen insight, exact logic, fulness and freedom of illustration and clear, beautiful style for which he is distinguished, explained the great doctrine of regeneration as the key to heaven, and reconciled it with moral laws and physical analogies. Mr. Beecher preached upon the duty and merit of patience, and the lessons of the trial doubtless deepened his thought. The Church of the Epiphany was crowded upon the occasion of the celebration of mass by Mgr. Roncetti and the Rev. Dr. Ubaldi, with an address in excellent English by the latter and a thoughtful and eloquent discourse by the Rev. Dr. Bursell. Here in this brief survey of one Sunday is surely answer enough to those who say that they would attend church oftener if it were not for the important place which the sermons occupy in the services.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Governor Thayer, of Wyoming Territory, is in Washington.  
General William H. Franklin, of Connecticut, is sojourning at the New York Hotel.  
Mr. Lawrence Barrett, the actor, is among the late arrivals at the New York Hotel.  
Lieutenant W. C. H. Snell, of the British Navy, is registered at the Clarendon Hotel.  
Mayor N. E. Graves, of Syracuse, is residing temporarily at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.  
Paymaster Joseph Foster, United States Navy, has taken up his quarters at the St. James Hotel.  
Again the season of pilgrimages is at hand, and the pious Frenchman is getting ready his paper collar.  
Lord Dufferin, the Governor General of Canada, and the Countess of Dufferin, sailed from Quebec for Liverpool at noon yesterday.  
Brevet Lieutenant Colonel James G. Lee, of the Quartermaster's Department, United States Army, is staying at the Brevoort House.  
Jessie D. Bright, ex-United States Senator from Indiana, is now lying dangerously ill at his residence in Baltimore, with rheumatism of the heart.  
The number of shipwrecks recorded for the month of February this year is 128, of which seventeen were steamers. Fifty-six were English and eleven American.  
Messrs. William E. Perkins and Francis D. Stedman, members of the Massachusetts Legislature, arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday from Washington, where they have been to invite the President to attend the Bunker Hill Centennial Celebration.  
A California paper says they got Wah Tung, a heathen, on the gallows the other day, with a rope around his neck, and he inquired of William Nye, the Sheriff, "Chokee like he?" "Yes," said William, "chokee, you bet," and then they dropped him.  
The condition of General Breckinridge remained unchanged up to last evening. He was very cheerful, and seemed less concerned at his condition than those around him. Experienced persons say he cannot remain much longer and is liable to be called away at any moment.  
"Cromwell" was played in Paris, but has been suppressed. In the original manuscript, in a fierce tirade, the Protector denounced "the royalists." Before the play was licensed the word "royalist" was cut out; but the actor, who had studied his part from an uncorrected manuscript, gave the passage, royalists and all, and so they stopped the piece.  
Keenly has found two more Tooley street tanners. Mr. Peter Edlison, ironfounder, who presided at a meeting at Accrington, stated that he believed the claimant to be Sir Roger Tichborne. The Rev. Mr. Vior, vicar of Ibsburgham Hayes, said that the Magna Charta movement was a national one, threatened to be of tremendous proportions, and was likely to exercise a marvelous political influence upon the destinies of the country.  
It appears to be officially confirmed that Prince Bismarck asked the Pope for his mediation with Gambetta for the conclusion of peace in the war of 1870. The proposition was made after the battle of Orléans, when the Germans at Versailles feared General Chanzy's advance for the relief of Paris. General Chanzy's advance for the relief of Paris. The Pope hoped that the service would be returned by Bismarck supporting the temporal power of the Holy See against Italy, but Bismarck saw the coming of an ecclesiastical conflict and refused to commit himself.  
There exists a letter which may some day give rise to doubts whether Meyerbeer wrote the music of the "Huguenots." It is the certificate of Emile Deschamps to the effect that he, the said Deschamps, did not write the said music. It arose in this way. Deschamps wrote part of the libretto. But if the libretto had been all written by Scribe it would have been his fourth grand opera and would have entitled him to a good pension. So Deschamps agreed that his name should not appear in connection with the libretto and that he should get his remuneration as having assisted in the preparation of the music. Then Meyerbeer had doubts, and required Deschamps' certificate as security, for though their contemporaries were aware that "Deschamps knew no more of music than a turkey," future ages might be less satisfied, or less informed.